



Bridging the Gap for Iowans with Mental Health Issues

The Iowa Mental Health Planning Council (IMHPC) was created by federal legislation. Meetings are held every other month on the third Wednesday of the month – Jan-Mar-May-July-Sept-Nov. There are two co-meetings with the MHDS Commission in May and October. Total time to conduct business at meetings is about 30 hours per year (6 meetings X 5 hours). Additional business is conducted by committee, workgroup and/or via e-mail.

3 purposes

1. To review the Mental Health Block Grant Plan and to make recommendations to DHS.
2. To serve as an advocate for adults with a serious mental illness, children with a serious emotional disturbance and their families, and other individuals with mental illnesses.
3. To monitor, review, and evaluate, not less than once each year, the allocation and adequacy of mental health services within the State.

33	7	6	6	4	6	4
Total Members 51% must be non-providers	Principal State Agency Voc-Rehab Mental Health Education Criminal Justice Housing Social Services Medical Services	Public/Private Entities	Adults w/SMI	Family members (age 16 & above) of Adults with SMI	Parent or Guardian of child or adolescent w/SED	Other Veteran IDPH

3 Standing Committees required in the Bylaws: Executive, Nominating, Monitoring and Oversight

5 Workgroups: 1. Legislative 2. Block Grant/State Mental Health Plan 3. Bylaws/Policy/Procedure 4. Public Safety 5. Media 6. Children's Workgroup

In the past, the substance abuse block grant and the mental health block grant were submitted to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) under separate rules with separate timeframes and by two separate agencies.

Under new regulations published in the Federal Register on April 11, 2011, there will be a uniform combined application and reporting process to promote consistent planning, application, and reporting dates across both block grants. The uses of block grant funds will change. Also, we will be identifying strengths, needs and service gaps for specific populations, linking Olmstead planning work, and trying to capture data requirements.

States are being encouraged to expand the Mental Health Planning Council to include prevention and substance abuse stakeholders and utilize this mechanism to advise on the formation of the substance abuse application as well. We have Michelle Tilotta from the Iowa Dept. of Public Health.

Contact Peter Schumacher at DHS to complete an application to be a Council member
<mailto:cfansel@dhs.state.ia.us> pschuma@dhs.state.ia.us

VISION All Iowans have access to comprehensive mental health services and supports, hope for recovery and resilience within the community of their choice.

MISSION To assess and promote the strengths of the Mental Health System while advising and advocating for system improvements and ensuring that community-based, culturally competent, and consumer/family driven service alternatives are available to all Iowans.

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